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# Review Of Research



## 'LEADERS OF HAVERI DISTRICT IN THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE OF INDIA'

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### ABSTRACT:

**M**ailar Mahadevappa was born to parents Mart-handappa and Basamma on 8th June 1911 at a village Byadagi of Haveri district. He pursued his primary education in native and at Hansabhavi. He was privileged for having teachers like T.R. Nashvi and K.F. Patil, he was immensely



influenced from the patriotic speeches of T.R. Nashvi and K.F. Patil. Regularly during his school days he used to read newspaper "Young India".

**KEY WORDS:** Freedom Fighter, primary education, historical event.

### INTRODUCTION:

Later Mahadevappa joined

"Indian Youth Organization" at Dharwad and as its activist he got actively involved in its activities. It was historical event that as a representative of the organization was the only one from Karnataka who participated in the Gandhi's Dandi March. He on 12th March 1930 along with 79 activists participated in the Dandi March. Mahadevappa was then only 19 years. When he returned to native after 6 months of imprisonment he received an unprecedented welcome at his native. This encouraged Mahadevappa to intensify the struggle still further. Later residing at ashrams at Koraduru and Hosaratti established his own team and initiated various struggles.

### Activities of Mailar Mahadevappas Associates:

**Activities of Bereaving Posts:** 1) Incidence of Looting letters arriving from Savanur Railway Station 2) Looting of letters stopping the Gadag-Shirahatti bus at Kallumulugunda 3) Looting letters from Harihara –Harapanahalli bus 4) Bereaving posts at the midst of Haveri 5) Looting posts from Haveri-Havanur bus

6) Looting Letters from runner at Shigli 7) Looting Post Bag at Karjagi.

**Setting Fire to Railway Stations:** Station at Savanur, Yalavagi, Byadagi and Karjagi was set fire.

**Places of Looting Tax:** Honnatti, Itagi (Shirahatti Taluk), Hebbala, Mailara and Hosaratti

**Attacking Police Stations and Setting Fire to Vehicles:** Setting fire to Police Vehicle when police came to collect the tax at Negalur. 2) Looting rifles from Police at Honnatti 3) Setting Fire to Out Post Police station at Balehosur.

**Regions of Looting Forums and Offices:** Yalagachcha, Havanur, Vadavi, Soranagi, Negalur, Hattimattur, Konchigeri, Kanavalli, Karjagi, Bijjuru, Belavagi, Kabbur, Itagi, Mailara, Sanguru etc.

**Tearing Liquor Bag and Destructing the Liquor Shop:** Destruction of Liquor shops at Vadavi, Soranagi, Konchigeri and Itagi.

**Cutting Telegram cables and uprooting the poles:** Telegram cables were cut and poles were uprooted at Dambal, Totada Yellapura, Aladakatti, Baalambidu, Hanagal, Haveri, Adur and Akkialur.

**Places at which Mahadevappa organized group camps:** 1) Bhairidevara Hill at Koganuru 2) At Hallada Kedagi Matti and sugarcane farm at Balehosur and Halagi temples 3) Temple at the bank of Varada river at Neeralagi. 4) Sugarcane farms at Negaluru 5) Vadavi Hills 6) Sugarcane farms at Heggeri of Totada Yellapura. 7) Caves of Kappada gudda hills 8) Holamma Devi temple 9) Spent nights at different Jawar fields every day at Kabbirahalli.

Likewise Mahadevappa and his team has organized 72 programmes. His 73rd incidence was looting of tax at Hasaratti.

#### **The important members of Mahadevappa Mailar Organization:**

Ningappa Koragunda, Guddappa Dilleppanavar, Goneppa Kamatkar, Fakirappa Koragunda, Veerayya Hiremath, Tirukappa Madiwalar, Venkannacharya Vayi, Basavakumar Mulgundmath, Yellappa Kanavalli, Hanumanna Jangali, Ramananda Mannangi, Buddensab Nadaf, Devendrappa Vibhuti, Purvachari Arkasali, Govindacharya Agnihotri, Panchakshari Valasangad, Paramanna Harakangi, Ninganna Mailar and others.

**Last Incidence:** One of the important event of Mailara Mahadevappa and his team was Hosaratti tax loot. This incidence occurred on April 1st of 1943 wherein Mailara Mahadevappa and his associates Veerayya Hiremath and Tirukappa Madiwalar were shot dead by Police and many of his associates got injured. This incidence provoked other freedom fighters of the country to intensify the freedom struggle still further.

T.R. Nekvi:

T.R. Neshvi was the native of Hirekerur of Haveri district. He was born as fourth son to Rudrappa-Parvatamma parents. Despite of poverty he completed his education at Devigihalli, Ranebennur, Dharwad and Pune. Though he was very eager to participate in freedom struggle when he was pursuing education, his dream of participating in the freedom struggle came to reality when he participated in the freedom struggle He was then a teacher in Anglo Vernacular School at Haunsabhavi. Indeed patriotism of T.R. Nakvi despite of being a teacher was a matter of high regards.

T.R. Nekvi was a graduate in Agricultural Science, while distributing the crops of the farmers noticed the practice of injustice. He stood support of the farmers to provide justice. Though there was severe draught in 1930-31 the government forced to accrue tax, then Veeranagouda of Kachavi and Neshvi together travelled to various villages and warned the farmers not to pay the tax. With the support of these farmers he organized a "Taluk Farmers Council" at Haunsabhavi on 25-01-1931 wherein about 3000 farmers from various places participated in the conference. This not only evinces the organization

skill of T.R. Neshvi but this struggle also forced the government to withdraw water transport tax of Rs. 46,000.00. It is a matter of pride that T.R. Neshvi was the first from Karnataka who opposed the payment of tax. Later during struggle of violation of law he in disguise collected paddy from various villages for Student Hostel at Haunsabhavi. He while collecting the grains encouraged the freedom fighters and he too participated in the struggle. Apart from this when the British did not react aptly to the needs of the Indians he participated in the Satyagraha and went to prison. Later he participated Quit India Movement and he was fasted and got a special provision to cook his food in the jail.

**Social Movement:** Consulting with R.S. Patil of Bhogavi decided to conduct awareness about Social and Political aspects amongst women. Therefore he successfully organized a conference “Koda Taluk Primary Women Council” on 27-05-1945 at Haunsabhavi. 140 students of Neshvi violating the law uprooted the liquor trees (Palm trees) at Haunsabhavi. Not only 9 students were sentenced to jail for three years even K.F. Patil was arrested for encouraging the students. As Nashvi escaped the police started torturing his family members, then Nashvi himself surrendered before S.P at Chinnamulagunda. Later he was arrested and sent to Hindalga jail. Likewise Neshvi experienced imprisonment for four times.

**Farmer Friendly:** Neshvi after becoming the Parliamentary member he became the member of All India Agriculture Administration Board and as a result of this a branch of All India Agriculture Administration Board was established in Karnataka. Apart from being Vice-President of this Board for the term of five years he privileged 300-400 farmers from Karnataka to participate in two conferences organized by Agriculture Society at Dehli. He introduced modern agriculture methods to the farmers. Likewise he participated in freedom struggle, struggle for union of state and farmers’ revolt.

### **Siddappa Hosamani (1890-1959)**

Siddappa Hosamani was in a agriculture family on 13th December 1890 at Karjagi. He completed Primary education in Karjagi, High School education at Karjagi, Lakshmeshwar and Dharwad. Later he completed his graduation in Law from Mumbai University. Later in 1908 he started his profession as an advocate. Then he efficiently rendered his duties for several years as a President of Karnataka Regional Congress Committee during the freedom struggle. Thus he established and spread a strong network of Congress party in every village. Apart from guiding freedom fighters like Mailara Mahadevappa, K.F. Patil, Hallikeri Gudleppa and others he extended help and cooperation to these freedom fighters in various means. Apart from this Neshvi played a significant role at the time constituting new Karnataka state. He organized the protestants and handled the criminal cases of protestants free of cost and supported them.

Later Siddappa Hosamani joined Subash Chandra Bose’s newly established organization “Forward Block”, and he was nominated as the President of the organization for Karnataka Region. Siddappa with his associates Lawyer A. A. Mundagi and K.F. Patil effectively organized the activities of “Forward Block”. Later when Netaji visited Haveri has greatly applauded Siddappa Hosamani in its article published by Forward Block which evinces the personality of the Siddappa Hosamani. After Post Independence in a meeting at Haveri he took an oath that he will see united Karnataka before his death. As per his words he led the integration of state struggle and guided the participants in the struggle. Siddappa Hosamani tried to uplift the status of Backward class people. Knowing this Gandhi praising Siddappa quoted “If everyone are is concerned as you there would be no untouchability in the nation”. Siddappa has sincerely rendered his service in various organizations and institutions and died on 14th February 1959.



**Kariyappa Sangur (Yereseemi)**

Kariyappa Sangur was born in a poor shepherd (Kuruba) family at Sangur. He passed Mulki exam claiming first class. During his school days he was influenced by the Kesari article published by Tilkar which sowed the seed of patriotism in his mind. He was so influenced by the article that he started wearing Khadi dress. He was very much influenced by reading the articles written by Gandhiji in "Young India" and started wearing Khadi and started promoting principles of Swadeshi. As Kariyappa protested against drinking of arrack Arrack shop owners thumped Kariyappa by sending 10-15 drunkards at Hirekerur in 1930. Though drunkards were kicking him he never protested instead told them stop drinking liquor it will harm their health and followed Gandhi's principle of Ahimsa. He cut-off liquor trees in that region and was imprisoned for 6 months.

He established a dormitory at Harijan settlement at Ranebennur and he used to see the Harijan settlement daily. Further he established harmony with Harijan people and he also refused to go to programmes or temple where Harijan people were prohibited. This evinces the secular principle in Siddappa. Likewise in 1936 he worked as a scavenger for few months at Kachavi and rendered his service to the village.

When he went to Gandhi's Ashram situated at Vardha for pursuing employment training in Gramseva Vidyalaya he married a handicapped woman Viramma of Sirsi staying in the ashram with the consent of Mahatma Gandhi in 1940 thus was a model of Secularism. When Kariyappa established an ashram at Tadas village of Hirekerur Taluk and was involved in village service activities Gandhi called for "Quit India Movement". Kariyappa completely got involved in the struggle and made the struggle to reach its peak.

**K.F. Patil:**

Shri Kallanagouda F. Patil was another eminent personality of the Haveri district. He was born as the fifth son to the couples Basamma and Fakkiragouda at Kakol village of Ranebennur taluk. Kallanagouda was born in an ordinary agriculture family and completed his primary education in Motebennur. Being influenced by the speeches of leaders of freedom struggle during the school days joined "Bharatiya Taruna Sangha" and became an active member of this organization. In view of awakening the students and bringing awareness of patriotism he used to call the eminent leaders of the freedom struggle like Mudaveedu Krishnaraya, Hukkerikar, R.R. Diwakar etc to speak during school programmes and in Ganesh festival. When Gandhi called for Salt Protest on 13-04-1930 he anticipated to Satyagraha at Ankola and took the responsibility of the satyagraha under the leadership of N.S. Hurdekar. His students were very much influenced by this move alerted the regions surrounding Haunsabhavi. About 140 students violated the laws by cutting the liquor trees and were arrested and sent before court. It was decided that K.F. Patil was responsible for student activities and was sent to Hirekerur Jail on 18-03-1932. After release from Hirekerur jail he was imprisoned in Hindalaga jail for 6 months. Later in 1932, K.F. Patil opted Davanagere as the center for his freedom struggle because the freedom struggle was not brisk in Mysore region and police activities in this region were not so strong. As the freedom struggle was weak in Mysore region he wanted to fasten the struggle in that region. One of the most important activities of K.F. Patil then was he staying at the roadside field reaching Channageri he typed the aspects related to the freedom struggle and assigned the task of dispatching these letters to Mahadevappa, Mailara, Sangur, Anavatti etc to make them reach the leaders at Haveri, Ranebennur, Hirekerur, Byadagi, Shiralakoppa, Sagar, Anavatti.

As K.F. Patil was indulged in destruction activities during the Quit India movement Police were in search of him to arrest. Before he got into the hands of Police he met his affectionate scholar Mailara Mahadevappa and told him to remain absconding for some days as British government was behind him.

K.F.Patil also handed him Rs. 500 to meet the expenses. Mailara Mahadevappa eyes became wet he started crying like a child as if he is not going to see K.F. Patil in future. Accordingly after a week of this incidence on 26 March 1943 K.F. Patil was arrested and after a very few days that is on 1st April 1943 Mailara Mahadevappa received a message that K.F. Patil was assassin and Mahadevappa was immensely shocked.

K.F. Patil wrote his desire of writing biography of Subas Chandra Bose and spend 2 days with Bose. He joined Forward Block established by Netaji and became the secretary of District Regional Branch of Forward Block. K.F. Patil succeeded in bringing Netaji to Byadagi to bring awareness amongst the people about the freedom struggle. As in a revolutionary decision on 8th August 1942 India declared a Freedom Struggle and a motto "British Quit India" was at rampage many of the Congress Leaders were arrested. Therefore Gandhi communicated a motto "DO or DIE" which set an electrifying impact on the struggle. The freedom fighters of Dharwad district under the leadership of Veeranagouda Patil met at Anavatti of Mysore State in the house of Mallikarjuna Goudar of Yenikoppa for interaction. This made the freedom struggle more fierce.

### **Menasinnal Timmanagoudar:**

Menasinnal Timmanagoudar was born on 8th October 1911 as the last son of couples Hanumanagouda and Neelamma at Mensinahal of Ranebennur taluk of Haveri district. Timmanagoudar completed his primary education and completed his 7th Standard at Tumminakatti. During his childhood he was influenced by the legendary stories of Sangolli Rayanna, Kittur Rani Channamma, Babasahen of Naragund revolting against British. This stories influenced him to jump into freedom struggle. Further the provoking and influential and speeches of T.R. Neshvi, K.F. Patil, Veeranagouda Patil, Hemanna Angadi, Nyamati Veerabhadrapappa enabled him to become a overall freedom fighter.

When Gandhi called-up for Violation of Laws on 18-01-1932 Timmanagoudar along with 200-300 freedom fighters entered the Harikatti forest near Nagavanda and destroyed about three fourth of the forest and he was arrested for violating the laws. Then Timmanagoudar was only 21 years old. His case was filed in Hirekerur Court (Vide Case No. 6/1932), he was sentenced 2 years of prisonment and a fine of 50 Rupees. As he was jailed at Yarawad Jail he got associated with Hindi speaking freedom fighters and learnt Hindi and he learned making thread using Charaka. When he was released from Jail and came to Tumminakatti the prominent persons of the village took him in a procession.

Returning from the Jail he was engaged in welfare activities of Harijans and enabled the Harijans to fill water from Ponds and wells, enter into the temple. When Gandhiji declared Quit India Movement and a slogan DO or DIE the freedom fighters became more enthusiastic. Timmanagoudar was a dream for the police because all the efforts made by the police to catch him went in vain. Timmanagoudar along with his associates was engaged in Telegraph cables, setting fire to government offices, demolishing the bridges. Timmanagoudar along with other freedom fighters set fire to revenue office at Kadur, attacked Rattihalli Police station in the early morning and thieved 5 rifles and escaped. When Police heard the news that Timmanagoudar was in Banakar's house at Nagavanda went to arrest Timmanagoudar. But Timmanagoudar cleverly escaped from police by disguising as a woman. At night when again when Police followed Timmanagoudar to arrest he escaped by playing a Drama at Fatepur. He accrued the tax at Eesur near Shikaripura. Getting rid of Timmanagoudar deputed 400-500 Australian army men at Tumminakatti and Mensinahal to catch Timmanagoudar. Despite of this when Tumminakatti was not caught, the Police arrested the parents of Timmanagoudar. Even such conditions Timmanagoudar set fire to offices at Masur, Medur, Tadas, Kaginele, Hommaraddi. As one of the Police at Tumminakatti was behaving very officiously Timmanagoudar set fire to the Police quarters. He looted Davanagere railway station and Honnali Police Station. He resided at Hallur hilly region. Getting rid due to activities of

Timmanagoudar District Collector announced either to catch Timminagoudar dead or alive and a prize of Rs. 1000 was announced to arrest Timminagoudar. Further District Collector ordered Shut at sight Timminagoudar. Further DC ordered to capture 80 acres of agricultural land of Timminagoudar along with the crops. Timminagoudar coming to know about this returned the loan papers along with mortgages to the people who had loaned money from Timminagoudar. Timminagoudar told them not to return the loan instead support by participating in the freedom struggle. Before British capture the agricultural lands of Timminagoudar he told the people to reap the crops in his land and take it to themselves. Hence he benefited the people by providing them crops.

### **Incidence of Looting of Kappelur Tax:**

At 10 pm On February 10, 1943 Timmanagoudar attacked Kappelur to loot the tax. While capturing the key of the tax office he had a struggle with the police and accidentally bomb in the bag of Timminagoudar exploded and he was severely injured. Though he took orthodox medication this did not help. Later he was taken to Davanagere for treatment. But Timminagoudar could not survive. Timmanagoudar lost his life soon after crossing Tungabhadra river bridge. Police coming to know about the fact took the dead body of Timminagoudar to Ranebennur and after Post-mortem his body was cremated in the graveyard behind Ranebennur Court.

Likewise he participated with Sardar Veeranagouda Patil and served for the upliftment of the backward class community. He was aware that education alone can help in the welfare of the backward community. Therefore established a education society for teaching the girls of backward classes. Later the same education society became popular as Women's Vidyapeetha.

When viewed as a whole it is observed that freedom fighters of Haveri district has provided a remarkable representation and valuable contributions in the Indian Freedom struggle. The well organized struggle and social activities are indeed role model. It is indeed their sacrifice and struggle by virtue of which we are enjoying and leading free and respectful life. It is to be very evident that younger generation and youths of today should cultivate such social concern and serve to the nation.

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